

VOL. IV.

**MONTANA**

NO. I.

# WILD LIFE

**June  
1932**



Official Publication Montana Fish & Game Dept.

# *Montana, God's Land*

BY THE REV. JOSEPH E. LONQUIST  
ANACONDA, MONTANA

*O, thou Montana, nestling on the rugged  
mountains,  
Fair land of snow-clad peaks and spaces  
that appall!  
Fair land of rushing brooks, of countless  
crystal fountains,  
Of sighing fir and pine, of rouring water-  
fall!*

*FAIR land! Ah, tame is speech, of little  
worth are phrases;  
The crayon turns quite pale within the  
artist's hand!  
Defeated stands the bard as wistfully he  
gazes  
Upon the brooding mounts that watch thy  
golden sand.*

*ABOVE, beneath, beyond, there is a  
boundless vastness  
That tauntingly defies our faney's wildest  
flights.  
We stand in awe before thy canyon, forest  
fastness,  
Thy open, wavy lands, thy sky-swept moun-  
tain heights.*

*NOR is thy fortune less than is thy  
matchless glory;  
God gave thee daughters fair, and sons  
with will and hand.  
He raised within thy gates a thousand  
mountains hoary  
That whisper as the sun goes down,  
"This is God's Land."*



# MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of The State Fish and Game Commission

VOL. V.

HELENA, MONTANA, JUNE 1, 1932.

NO. 1

## New Commission Is Appointed



GOVERNOR JOHN E. ERICKSON, Montana's chief executive, has announced the appointment of an entirely new State Fish and Game Commission and the first meeting is scheduled to be held at Helena on Wednesday, June 1. Members of the new commission entrusted with protecting and propagating the fish and game resources of the state, are:

William Steinbrenner of Missoula, who succeeds Thomas N. Marlowe of Missoula for the term ending April 15, 1933.

B. L. Price of Laurel, who succeeds W. K. Moore of Billings for the term ending April 15, 1934.

Harry P. Stanford of Kalispell, who succeeds E. A. Wilson of Livingston, for the term ending April 15, 1934.

W. P. Sullivan of Square Butte who succeeds W. A. Brown of Great Falls for the term ending April 15, 1935.

William F. Flynn of Anaconda who succeeds Joseph L. Kelly of Anaconda for the term ending April 15, 1936.

### Revised Version

"In the spring a young man's fancy"  
(Thus an abler bard to quote)  
Lightly turns to Sue or Nancy  
Who can make him glow or gloat.  
But, assume the chap grows older,  
With improvement in control  
And the day's no longer colder  
Then a mercenary's soul.  
Still, perhaps his fancy's turning  
Somewhat as in days of yore,  
But his later vernal yearning  
Is for fishing that's in store.

All members of the new commission have for years been identified with constructive conservation movements in their communities as well as throughout the state.

Coming to Montana from Illinois in 1898 enroute to Alaska gold camps, Mr. Sullivan secured work on a ranch to obtain money for his Alaskan venture and has been here since. He now owns and operates the large Square Butte cattle ranch about 65 miles northeast of Great Falls.

For many years Mr. Sullivan has been known as a leader in wild life conservation. When it appeared antelope were about to disappear as did buffaloes, he designated his ranch as a preserve and the herd there now numbers 100 head, comprising one of the largest bands in the country. He is a member of the executive committee of the Montana Stockgrowers Association and is known for his efforts to improve the strain of range cattle.

William Steinbrenner of Missoula has been a resident of Montana 47 years and always has been identified with sportsmen's activities here. He was one of the organizers of the Western Montana Sportsmen's Association. Mr. Steinbrenner has always been connected with business activities in Missoula. He is a trustee of Hell Gate Lodge of the Elks and is an insurance adjuster. He has resided in Missoula for 31 years and went there from Helena, where he lived for 16 years. He is a native of Ohio.

Mr. Price, Laurel attorney, was one of

the founders and an early president of the Southeastern Montana Sportsmen's Association, which recommended his appointment to the commission. He has held various offices at Laurel and at one time was a member of the Midland Empire fair board. He has resided at Laurel for about 25 years.

Commissioner Stanford has been engaged in the taxidermy business in Kalispell for more than 30 years. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1867, he came to Montana in 1877, locating at Fort Benton. Before entering his present business he was peace officer at Kalispell and at Fort Benton.

William P. Flynn is a past president of the Anaconda Anglers' Club and a prominent sportsman of that city. He has been a resident of the Smelter City for 22 years and is employed as a transportation engineer at the Anaconda smelter. He is a graduate of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, N. Y., with the degree of civil engineer. He went to Anaconda shortly after his graduation. He has been active in civic and political affairs in Anaconda.

### Deer and Elk Kill Reaches 11,526

MONTANA'S big game kill during the 1931 season, compiled from report cards torn from the big game licenses and returned to headquarters of the State Fish and Game Department, totals 11,526 deer and elk. This count is complete up to May 26, 1932. The law requires that the report cards be returned not later than January 1, 1932. The tabulation shows the bagging of 7,282 buck deer, 2,441 female deer in the six open counties, 994 bull elk, and 809 cow elk. Cards returned to the department reporting "no luck" total 10,891. The total big game license sales reported to the department up to May 26, shows 29,568 at \$1 each. The compilation of figures shows that 7,300 deer and elk were reported killed on the national forests and 3,169 off the forests. Range condition reports are as follows: Good, 6,531; fair, 2,424; poor, 1,360. Sheeped off, 554. Lincoln county leads the state with a reported kill of 1,473 buck deer and 729 does. Flathead county was second with 732 bucks and 747 does in addition to 235 bull elk and 189 cow elk. The belated report cards are still coming in following activities at departmental headquarters in checking up dilatory sportsmen.

### Sportsmen Invest In Montana's Welfare

TRUE sportsmanship of spontaneous nature is being demonstrated by men who have devoted years to the upbuilding of Montana, her commercial, industrial, and recreational institutions. They realize that investment in fish and game means returns to all lines of commercial endeavor. The following communication addressed to the editor of MONTANA WILD LIFE by Senator John W. Corwin of Park City, member of the upper house of the legislature from Stillwater county, is significant:

"One of our guests at Sunday dinner recently remarked: 'MONTANA WILD LIFE, official publication of the State Fish and Game Department, is the only publication we receive that I read from cover to cover.' Congratulations on the good work."

"I have not hunted big game for years and have no intention of doing so this year, but am enclosing cashier's check for \$5 in payment of a Sportsman's License to encourage the important work of conservation of our wild life."



## Hal Hart Honored by State Sportsmen

**H**ARLON L. HART of Helena, sportsman, trapshooting enthusiast, and disciple of the out of doors, has been named as a member of the governing board of the Montana Sportsmen's Association to succeed the late Dr. William M. Copenhaver who was recently drowned while fishing in Meadow lake. Mr. Hart has for years been intimately associated with movements intended to enhance the vast program of conservation of wild life resources in which the State Fish and Game Department is engaged. He is a former state treasurer and well known throughout the state.



Harlon L. Hart

At the meeting held at Helena May 9, five members of the governing body of the Montana State Sportsmen's Association passed a resolution expressing sorrow at the loss of Dr. Copenhaver.

The members attending were Chairman Fred B. Williams of Bozeman, Glen Smith of Missoula, Andy Baumgartner of Great Falls, Dr. J. H. Garberson of Miles City, A. H. Croonquist of Red Lodge, and the newly appointed member, Harlon L. Hart of Helena. The resolution passed by the body is as follows:

"Realizing most deeply the irreparable loss to the association and to the sportsmen of Montana through the death of Dr. William M. Copenhaver, we the governing body of the Montana State Sportsmen's Association

"Whereas, one of the noblest sportsmen and finest gentlemen of Montana has been removed from our midst, and

"Whereas, his passing has left an irreparable loss to our organization, and

"Whereas, it is our desire to extend

## Why Game Wardens Grow Gray Hair

**H**ERE'S another reason why men engaged in the strenuous task of protecting Montana's fish and game resources grow old rapidly! In the mountain of mail that passes through State Fish and Game Headquarters regularly may be found all sorts of communications, letters from conscience-stricken violators, anonymous diatribes, commendatory letters, requests for information for everything from a cure for gout to a recipe for cooking carp. The following appeal reached department headquarters during the last month:

"Dear Sir:

"I wuld like too know if it is agenset the Low to ketch fish whit hooks and from trow line or pole and line fishing in the Mesure River. How many lins and hocks dose a person dare to use.

"I would only wanta fish fore our on use and none for sail and then there is the question if I will ketch any at all caus I have never tried to fish in the Mesure River and if I do hafta get lisens first if I will ever ketch enuf fish to pay fore the lisense fee.

"Please let me here wether I can go fishing in the Mesure River whit trow lines and hocks or pole and line without first geting a lisens and please send me price of fish lisens."

our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family, now therefore

"Be it resolved, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting in the records of the Montana Sportsmen's Association and that a copy of this resolution be presented to the press and to the bereaved family."

## GAME BOOK IS OUT

The transactions of the Eighteenth American Game Conference are available in book form (266 printed pages) and can be purchased from the American Game Association, Investment Building, Washington, D. C., for fifty cents per copy. Sportsmen's clubs of Montana may purchase one or more copies for the information of members. It contains more useful information on modern game management than any similar publication to be had.

## DEER IN PENNSYLVANIA

Approximately 100,000 deer were shot in Pennsylvania last season, this being only one-tenth of the estimated herd. With the coming of fawns this year the over-population of deer in that state will be as serious a question as ever.

## WILL RAISE PHEASANTS

Plans whereby 4-H Club boys in Iowa may assist in raising the Iowa pheasant crop, at least in two counties—Benton and Scott—are under way. Eggs will be furnished boys who show an interest in this work. Sportsmen's groups in both counties are sponsoring this work. This work with the 4-H Clubs of Iowa has possibilities and cannot fail to be helpful if preliminary tests prove successful. The plan is being tried out on a limited scale this year.

## Larry Hamilton Aids Butte Anglers' Club



Larry Hamilton

**B**ACKED by a constructive record of 30 years of service, the Butte Anglers' Club has attained a position of merited esteem among organizations of sportsmen in state and nation. For 30 years this great organization of lovers of the out of doors has been striving diligently to maintain and increase the supply of fish and game in the Treasure State, and for 30 years the State Fish and Game Department has been cooperating with sportsmen affiliated with the Butte club. The organization today operates the large trout rearing ponds at Maiden Rock, the hatchery at Divide and takes an active part in merited movements intended to hold Montana in the forefront as a playground for anglers, hunters and vacationists.

These achievements have been made possible through the cooperation of such outstanding leaders as D. G. Stivers, John Berkin, William Carpenter, Larry Hamilton, Walt Ballard, John L. Boardman, and their associates.

Few members of the club have demonstrated their sportsmanship in more efficient manner, day in and day out, than Larry Hamilton, recently elected vice president.

During all the years that Mr. Hamilton has been affiliated with the Butte Anglers' Club he has been a staunch exponent of four-square sportsmanship.

His most recent achievement in behalf of Montana sportsmen has been the arrangement with Manager Graney of radio station KGIR, The Voice of Montana, at Butte, whereby leaders of the Butte Anglers' Club have been delivering 15-minute messages each Sunday evening, to "tuners-in" within reach of the station, regarding fishing and hunting opportunities offered by Montana and the necessity for its preservation.

Larry Hamilton has been the wheel horse of every membership drive staged by the club and his wholesome influence has been largely responsible for enlisting support of hundreds of residents of Silver Bow county in behalf of the activities of the club. He preaches sportsmanship, he practices sportsmanship and he lives it, hence his efforts and those of leaders with whom he is associated, have meant much toward stocking the 1,500 miles of trout waters within reach of the Copper City.

The bear relishes more varieties of food than any other animal.



## Montana Gunners Meet at Helena



R. H. Hill

**T**RAPSHOOTING enthusiasts of Montana and the northwest will gather at Helena on June 16-17-18-19 for the thirty-ninth annual tournament of the Montana Sportsmen's Association. The Helena Gun Club, which is sponsoring the tournament, is adding \$600 in cash to the prizes. Medals and trophies which have become historic in the annals of trapshooting in Montana, will again be

up for competition and the program as arranged by officers of the Helena club is attractive to shooters generally, whether they be residents of Montana or sister states. Robert H. Hill, Montana's state fish and game warden, is president of the state association with E. W. (Ted) Renfro of Dell vice-president, and the veteran C. H. Smith of Butte as secretary-treasurer. Secretary Smith has been in the trapshooting harness as secretary of the state association for more than 40 years and is recognized throughout the state as the dean of the clay target fraternity.

Montana's finest sportsmen are listed among devotees of the trapshooting sport. Men who admire good dogs and square shooting sportsmanship are a dominant factor in the conservation and preservation of wild life resources of the state and these men make up the trapshooting clubs of the state.

The annual tournament at Helena this year establishes a precedent in that the optionals will be conducted along lines intended to equalize shooting between the four classes of enthusiasts. The entry fees in the optionals have been graduated in such manner that the Class D shooter puts up \$1.25 to enter a 25-bird event against the \$3.50 required of the Class A shot. Money divisions in the optionals will be on the 40-30-20-10 basis, hence the shooter who breaks a 22 is in the money.

In the Montana medal events a special entry fee has been arranged for Montana shooters only, but the events are open to competition for all shooters.

Programs of the shoot may be secured by addressing Ed Walker, secretary of the Helena club, or any of the officers. Helena Gun Club leaders are: Reynolds Prosser, president; Robert H. Hill, vice-president; Ed Walker, secretary; Harlon L. Hart, treasurer; Harry L. Hale, field captain; Fred E. Kessler, director; Floyd L. Smith, director; George W. Macartney, director; Ben Wahle, Jr., director; Russell Hart, director; T. Harry Blain, director; Steve

J. Tomcheck, director.

The following information, taken from the program, is of interest to Montana shooters:

Thursday, June 16, is practice day and the grounds and club house will be open after 10 a.m.

All entrance fees will be received at the club grounds. The shoot will be cashed by A. M. (Tony) Hoover of Minneapolis.

Shooting will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Targets will be trapped at 3 cents. Ammunition of standard makes will be on sale at the club house.

Squads will be allotted new positions by lot at the close of each day's shooting. No. 1 shooter of the squad will look after drawing lots for his squad position the following day.

The annual meeting of the Montana Sportsmen's Association will be held Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the Placer hotel when a banquet will be served by the Helena Gun Club. Officers will be elected, the location of the 1933 shoot selected and matters pertaining to the welfare of the sport discussed.

Hot lunches and meals, cold drinks and refreshments, will be served at the grounds at all hours. The club house is equipped with natural gas.

Rules and regulations of the Amateur Trapshooting Association will govern this tournament. The management reserves the right to reject any entry.

Entrance fees will be accepted for the entire day's program. Money will be refunded by the cashier for any event not shot, providing he is notified before the event is started.

Arrangements have been perfected for shooting the Montana medal events in connection with the regular program with an extra entrance fee for Montana shooters.

Residents of the state may compete in the entire program for targets only and be eligible to win any A. T. A. trophies and state honors. They are not required to enter the optionals or the medal events.

The women's race for the state championship will be based on 200 targets this year in keeping with many requests. The race will be shot on the same targets trapped in the state singles championship, starting Saturday and concluding Sunday morning.

The state association annually presents an especially engraved medal to the Montana shooter who is high over all in the singles targets for three days, exclusive of the mixed events and team shoots. This medal is for Montana shooters only and can be won by contestants shooting for targets only.

The Amateur Trapshooting Association of America will contribute trophies valued at \$150. to each approved State Registered Tournament held in 1932 as follows:

A trophy to the winner of the Ama-

teur Trapshooting Association's State Amateur Championship at 200 single targets.

A trophy to the winner of the A.T.A. State Amateur Championship at double targets.

A trophy to the winner of the A.T.A. Amateur Distance Handicap Event at 100 targets.

All-around champion trophy.

The winner of the A. T. A. Amateur Championship shall be a resident of Montana, making high score on 200 singles. Any amateur resident of the state shooting for targets only shall be eligible to win the championship and trophy. Ties, if any, shall be shot off at 25 targets per man.

The winner of the A.T.A. State Amateur Championship at the double targets shall be a resident of Montana, making high score on 50 double registered targets, 25 pairs. Any amateur resident of Montana shooting for targets only will be eligible to win the championship and trophy. Ties, if any, shall be shot off at 10 pairs.

Bona fide residents in a State for three or more months will comply with the requirements of the Amateur Trapshooting Association, insofar as the State Amateur Championship events are concerned. However, no one may compete for the State Championships in more than one state in any one year.

The amateur resident of Montana who is credited with the high average on the Championship and Handicap Targets at State Tournament (200 singles, 50 doubles and 100 handicap) shall be the winner of the State All-Round Trapshooting Championship.

The professional trapshooter, resident of Montana, who is credited with the high score on 200 single targets, 16 yards rise, which constitute the State Amateur Singles Championship, shall be declared the winner of the State Professional Championship at single targets.

The professional trapshooter, resident of Montana, who is credited with the high score on the 50 doubles, (25 pairs), which constitute the State Amateur Doubles Championship, shall be declared the winner of the State Professional Championship at Double Targets.

The professional, resident of Montana, who is credited with the high average on the Championship and Handicap targets at a state tournament (200 singles, 50 doubles and 100 handicap), shall be declared the winner of the State Professional All-Round Trapshooting Championship.



C. H. Smith



## The All-Around Gun Dog

BY DR. CHARLES R. THORNTON OF MISSOULA, MONTANA

EDITOR'S NOTE—MONTANA WILD LIFE herewith presents the second article of the interesting, authoritative series prepared by Dr. Thornton of Missoula on the habits of thoroughbred hunting dogs. In his first article he dealt with "Dogs of My Boyhood Days." The splendid manner in which the article was received reflects the sentiment of Montana sportsmen who associate the use of brainy hunting dogs with the conservation of upland game birds. Dr. Thornton established the famed Bredrite Kennels at Missoula and has placed thoroughbred dogs in every state in the Union as well as in many foreign countries.



Dr. Thornton

ARTICLES are appearing every few months in out-door magazines, advancing this or that breed as an all-round dog. Why all this noise about an all-round dog? The answer is simple and may be answered by the apprentice. Few men can, or care to, own more than one dog. Gunners are increasing yearly, most of them hunting a mixed bag. Since the average

man has only one dog, he wants a dog that will be an advantage rather than a hindrance in filling his sack with different kinds of game. Many men contend there is "no such animal." With my experience through boyhood, and extensive handling and breeding for a number of years, I am compelled to classify this element with the "Show Me" Missouri friends, to which we have no objection. I have always had a personal admiration for the type of individuals who say there is not such a word as "can't."

Referring to my first article of this series in the May issue of MONTANA WILD LIFE, I have frankly admitted that a useful, all-purpose dog may be developed from various breeds, if proper patience and experience is given the individual.

Being thoroughly familiar with our sporting breeds, I have not found, up to this time, a dog or breed of dogs that will handle any and all kinds of game with the willingness, ease and slight experience that will equal the German short-haired pointer. There are individuals in any breed that will develop more rapidly than others. There are few men who have the patience or will spend the few minutes time each day required to bring to the surface the latent intelligence stored away in the brain of the canine friend.

It is absolutely necessary for a dog to have experience in the work he is supposed to do. I once knew a setter that was an expert retriever, but refused to have anything to do with a crow. One early spring his master entered into a crow-killing contest for

the Canadian province of which he was a resident. The feet were removed and the dead crow discarded. The dog watched this procedure many times. He finally decided there was something about the bird that his master wanted, and began to retrieve them of his own accord. It became necessary to hide the crows in some way as the dog insisted on retrieving all the dead crows he found, even when they were decomposing. When the young were hatched, he soon learned his master was collecting them from the nests. He readily took to hunting nests and his owner told me that he never barked "treed" at an unoccupied nest. Had this man never hunted crows, this latent, intelligent instinct would never have developed.

I have known men to take their dogs afield the opening day of the season, without any experience whatsoever, and then abuse them shamefully because they did not perform properly. These same fellows would set up a terrible howl if such treatment were dealt out to their children on the opening day of their school career.

The average dog in the utility class will be a past master at anything he is supposed to major in, whether it be shepherd, beagle, fox hound or what not, before your child or mine has finished his first grade, with just half the time that is given the child. Do not condemn your dog friend too soon. More often the spotlight should be turned upon yourself. The good dogs ruined from improper human contact far exceed all the poor ones ever whelped.

The real, all-purpose gun dog is the dog that will do the most for his hunting companion and do it the best with

a minimum of effort on his master's part. The retrieving classes are advanced today as an all-purpose dog and are indeed satisfactorily used by some men. With all due respect to these various breeds, they are not to be compared with pointer and setter as an all-round dog. You can take any pointer and setter and develop him into an expert retriever, but you cannot develop a pointer but from very few retrievers.

I once knew a shepherd dog to do fairly well at standing quail, but as a breed they do not have this accomplishment. The hunting range of the retriever is limited for all practical purposes to the killing range of the gun.

The pointer and setter will step out and cover almost unlimited territory. It is true most of the retrievers will stand more abuse in briars and rough weather. On the other hand, I have owned and known many pointers and setters that could not be stopped by any sort of cover or the coldest of water. No matter how stoical the gunner may be, there is something in a staunch point that will warm his heart. After all, the real thrill comes from the dog's masterly handling of game and a staunch stylish point, instead of the actual killing, or the finished product in the culinary department. The man who hunts rabbits and rabbits only, should have a beagle. The duck hunter a retriever, the fox hunter a fox hound, but the man who hunts a mixed bag with only one dog is compelled to have an all-purpose dog.

The German people as a nation have always been considered our leading economists. Admitting this fact, it is only logical to expect them to develop



A quartet of well-trained German pointer stud dogs at Dr. Thornton's Kennels.



the outstanding all-purpose dog. The German short-haired pointer registered under this name in Germany is generally known as Gebrauchshund, which when translated into English means dog of many uses or all-purpose dog.

Since few are familiar with this breed a short history of their development will be of interest.

For years the old German pointer was the dog in general use in Germany. He was a stout, heavy dog, chestnut brown in color. This breed originated from a cross between the old Spanish pointer and the bloodhound, the offspring resembling the bloodhound ancestry. Besides the slowness of this dog, he had some sterling qualities. He was bold as a lion, a good watch-dog, and a born retriever on land or water. He was used on all feathered game, roe deer, bear and wild boar. All these good qualities combined met the economic ideas of the Teutons, hence his great popularity.

The epoch of high speed, which grips us so firmly today, came on gradually. This same urge took root in Germany as in all other progressive nations.

Field trials were unknown in Germany until about 50 years ago. Once they were started, the sportsmen saw the need of more speed in their shooting dogs. In casting about for such blood, they readily decided on the English pointer. (The English pointer is a product of crossing the old Spanish pointer with the English foxhound.) To this cross the English pointer owes his color, range, speed, and many of his physical characteristics.

In crossing the old German pointer with the English pointer, they developed a highly intelligent dog that carried over many of the desirable qualities of the old German pointer with increased range and speed. By repeated trials and selective breeding, they developed the German short-haired pointer, which is also known as the New German pointer or Gebrauchshund.

You will note from this short history that the German short-haired pointer would be in reality one-half Spanish pointer and a cross each of bloodhound and English foxhound.

The German short-haired pointer is a two-color dog, brown and white, but never entirely white. Purebreds do not come in other colors. They vary from

solid brown to liver and white, the same as our English pointer. They are further classified, as to color, as light and dark tiger, depending on the amount of white or brown showing through the coat. The color characteristic is exceptionally beautiful.

The hair is of coarser texture than our English pointer, a little longer and very closely knit, resembling the coat of the hair seal.

They are from 22 to 27 inches at the shoulder and weigh from 50 to 80 pounds. (Females approach the minimum measurements.) Strong good feet; short-coupled, well muscled, deep barrel-shaped chest. They have beautiful, intelligent heads, expressive eyes, varying from shades of olive to brown. Long, low-hung ears. The tail is cropped to about one-half or less than natural length. This is done at the age of six to eight days. This is not a fashion but a necessity, as they are busy-tailed fellows when in quest of game, and hunting in brush, the tail becomes sore, purulent, bleeds and is a source of annoyance in the car or



German pointer puppy, three months old, on a point.

three months of age. We have had well-broken shooting puppies at four and five months of age. Do not think that they will do this without experience. Every one of them that have been advanced at this early age were afield daily from the time they were old enough to travel. They are exceptionally easily trained. If taken out frequently and left alone, they will staunch themselves. Talking or giving commands to the puppies is detrimental when on point or while hunting. Being overly anxious to obey their masters, they may thus quit a point and return to their handler.

I have four Missoula friends who had never owned bird dogs who took puppies of this breed, followed a few instructions and now have perfect working dogs. Some of them did not know a bird dog from a bull dog. One of them did not even recognize his puppy's first point.

The majority of them bark "treed" at game of any kind that trees. About fifty per cent of them give tongue when on a hot trail. They are experts on crippled game and as near non-slip retrievers as I have ever used.

They love children and are especially good watch-dogs. Not inclined to be vicious but demand respect. If crowded will defend themselves. All they ask of any stranger is to keep their hands off and stop when the warning is given.

The extreme intelligence and judgment characteristic of this breed I attribute to the bloodhound. If there ever was a real sage in dogdom it is the bloodhound. Those of you who are familiar with the breed will bear me out in this statement.

They have good range and speed and when once staunch on game, it is seldom you can call them off. I have picked them up when on point, carried them 20 and 30 feet, dropped them and when they hit the ground they were frozen on point. On a few occasions we have had them of their own accord locate game and return for us. Circling and heading off the "wiley old Chink" is common with them.

I have often been asked after enumerating their good qualities to name

(Please turn to Page 15)



Young Fritz von Bitterwurzel at one year of age is steady to wing. He is watching them fly away after a staunch point.

about the house. The docking greatly improves their looks, taking away their houndy appearance.

They are essentially a one-man or family dog and will not make up readily with strangers. Have good disposition, take kindly to children and love to be petted.

Their outstanding work is on upland game birds and water retrieving. As pointers they are staunch as any dog can be and will point anything that will lay to cover. I have used them successfully on all of our game birds here in Montana. When vacationing in the south each year, I take from two to four of them with me and find them very good on quail. They also took readily to squirrel hunting and found treed possums.

I have had letters from Canada to the Panama Canal, from the Hawaiian Islands to the West Indies, telling me of their wonderful work on birds and game in their locality.

They are busy, hard, all-day hunters with merry action and lots of style. They are more cautious than an English pointer. Some of them, if given an opportunity will point at two to



Treus Brandy, beautiful German pointer, working on Hungarian partridges in the Bitter Root Valley.

# Montana Fish and

W. P. SULLIVAN, *Square Butte*  
Commissioner

W. F. FLYNN, *Anaconda*  
Commissioner

WM. STEINBRENNER, *Missoula*  
Commissioner



# Game Commission

B. L. PRICE, *Laurel*  
Commissioner

HARRY P. STANFORD, *Kalispell*  
Commissioner

R. H. HILL, *Helena*  
State Fish and Game Warden, Secretary

## MONTANA WILD LIFE

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VOL. V.

JUNE, 1932.

NO. 1

### LEAVE WILD CREATURES IN THE WOODS

**D**ESPITE the fact that this is apparently an age when "don'ts" are being passing out too freely, it is well to remember the seasonal warning against picking up wild life creatures in the woods. Spotted fawns are now being coaxed along by mother deer, upland game birds are nesting and migratory waterfowl are preparing to bring forth the little quackers. If you find a fawn in the woods, don't molest it. The parent knows where it is. Complications may result from fondling the fawn.

Each year at this season the State Fish and Game Department receives requests from persons who have found young birds or animals in the woodlands and desire to keep them for pets. While the saving of orphaned wild life is commendable, promiscuous taking of young birds and animals to raise is discouraged.

Permits to capture must be secured from the Fish and Game Department when wild life is taken out of season. These are granted only when good cause can be shown that the applicant desires the animals for scientific or propagating purposes. A game farm permit is necessary for the creatures to be held in captivity and this is granted only after the applicant can show that birds or animals are used for scientific or propagating purposes and only after a game warden has placed approval upon the place where the wild life creatures are to be confined.

When a wife shoots her husband it really is just a divorce case settled out of court.

### THERE'S SOLACE IN MONTANA'S MOUNTAINS

**T**HERE'S more to fishing than merely catching fish and more more to hunting than merely killing furred or feathered creatures. Those who measure the success of hunting and fishing trips by the length of a string of fish or by the size of the game bag, are overlooking the essence of these outdoor sports. The prospect of catching fish or the bagging of game is the means of luring into the out of doors many who otherwise would not go. For this reason it is necessary that lakes and streams be kept well stocked with fish and woods and fields with game.

An occasional sojourn with nature will do much toward the making of healthier, happier men and women and better citizens. Alone with nature and her ever-interesting and mystifying revelations, one is not likely to think evil thoughts or plan evil deeds. Inspired or awed by that which cannot be readily discerned or understood, one's thoughts are likely to be directed to the contemplation of nobler things of life. A sense of helplessness, a feeling of

insignificance, a spirit of meekness, an appreciation of one's proper place in reality, is likely to arise.

Those of an inquisitive, rather than a contemplative, type of mind may find many of nature's baffling puzzles to furnish diversion from perplexing problems of everyday life and thus return to meet those problems with renewed vigor of mind and body.

There the philosopher may find a hint to the finding of his treasurer of truth; the artist models for his canvas; the poet inspiration for his verses and all of us contentment and refuge from worries.

There is much to be learned from association with fellow-beings in an environment where fair play and good sportsmanship are taught and exemplified. It is on such trips that personality and character are revealed. Selfishness and greed are frowned upon. Those displaying these traits are ostracized. One learns respect for the rights of others.

This age of industrialism has produced a condition of strenuous activity upon the part of the individual. It is necessary that the individual have some form of recreation or relaxation from strenuous activity. Another result of the same system is a greater amount of leisure afforded the individual. How this leisure time is utilized largely determines the character of our citizenship. There is surely no better way for these hours or days of relaxation or recreation to be spent, than in the enjoyment of the outdoors. In order that our people may be attracted to the outdoors there must be something there to interest them. Since game and fish furnish this attraction to many, it is important that these attractions be safeguarded and developed.

Here's a sentence a school girl handed in using the word "triangle." "If the fish won't bite grasshoppers, triangle worms."

### INDIANS DESTROYING FISH AND GAME

**D**ESTRUCTION of fish and game by Indians who have no regard for closed seasons, bag limits or state laws, has for years been fought in determined manner by Montana's Fish and Game Department, yet recent reports indicate that the practice is not confined exclusively to the Treasure State. Way down south in Florida, the Seminoles are stirring strife. Here's what the official bulletin of the Florida department says:

"Game Warden Newton Lewis recently searched the cold storage place of E. L. (Bert) Lasher at Musa Isle Indian Village, near Miami. He found parts of five deer, seven ducks and two wild turkeys. Mr. Lasher appeared at the office of the justice of the peace with 40 Indians, who claimed the venison. The venison may have belonged to the Indians. No doubt they killed it. They kill lots of game, in season and out of season. The Indian has just about as much respect for game laws as racketeers and gangsters have for the Volstead Act. There is a lot of misplaced sentiment directed toward the Indians. It has been said that the Indian kills only such game as needed. That may have been true, but it is certainly not true now as regards the Florida Seminoles. They wander over the Everglades region killing game and selling it. After all, though, the Indian perhaps cannot be blamed. He perhaps would not kill it, unless there was a market for it. The man that encourages the Indian to kill game illegally is legally as guilty as the Indian, and morally more so.

"It is our opinion that the Indians should be kept upon their reservations and either made to earn a living by working for it or from hunting and fishing there. They do not seem to be amenable to any law and as long as they are permitted to roam at will, they will no doubt continue to be one of the most troublesome factors that conservation officials have to contend with."

**WARDEN HAS RIGHT TO SEARCH CAR**

**A** CIRCUIT court case of significance to conservation law enforcement, in which the judge ruled that a conservation warden had a right to search an automobile without a warrant if he had reasonable grounds for believing the automobile contained contraband, was recently decided in circuit court in Wisconsin before Judge S. E. Smalley.

As a result of the case which was prosecuted by Charlton H. James, district attorney of Iowa county, Charles McNurlin of Gotham was sentenced to serve five months in the county jail. He chose the jail sentence rather than a \$100 fine and costs, which totaled nearly \$500.

McNurlin was convicted on a charge of resisting an officer. According to testimony, Conservation Warden George Johnson attempted to search the car of McNurlin in which the warden had been informed contraband wild ducks were to be found. McNurlin resisted violently and succeeded in escaping. He was arrested later on another game law charge near Oconomowoc.

McNurlin had nine previous convictions, according to testimony in this trial, seven of which were for game law violations, one for aiming a gun at a person, and another for assault and battery.

By statute, conservation officers are given greater powers of search and seizure than other officers because the contraband for which they search is illegally taken game and fish and is state property rather than personal property.

After a man reaches the age of 50 his chief desire is to be let alone.

**KING JOHN AND THE WILD FOWL SHORTAGE**

**T**HAT history repeats itself may or may not be true, but anyway there seems to have been a scarcity of wild fowl in England back in 1209 A. D. during the reign of King John of Magna Charta fame. The account of this as given in Holinshed's Chronicles (1577 A. D.) is as follows:

"Yet this I have by general knowledge, that there is no nation under the sun which hath already in the time of the year more plenty of wild fowl than we, for so many kinds as our island doth bring forth, and much more would have if those of the higher soil might be spared but one year or two from the greedy engines of covetous fowlers which set only for the pot and purse. Certes this enormity bred great troubles in King John's days, insomuch that, going in progress about the tenth of his reign, he found little or no game wherewith to solace himself or exercise his falcons. Wherefore, being at Bristow in the Christmas ensuing, he restrained all manner of hawking or taking of wild fowl throughout England for a season, whereby the land within a few years was thoroughly replenished again."

Perhaps if John had had an Advisory Board to counsel him and a few conservation organizations to offer suggestions, he might have been able to replenish the supply without restricting the killing privileges of these "greedy engines of covetous fowlers which set only for the pot and purse." Anyway, John's system seems to have produced the desired results.

The expression "newly rich" is being displaced these days by "newly poor."

**DO NOT BURN BRUSH**

**O**NE of the most destructive elements with regard to the preservation of game birds is the burning of brush and wood patches. While some of this may be necessary, there is much needless burning of brush and weeds on farms, especially if we are to consider the perpetuation of upland game birds. Extensive burning not only destroys brush and briar patches, which provide ideal natural cover for many birds and animals, but threatens also to destroy buildings and timber and ruins much natural fertilization. In burning off these patches, the farmer drives valuable game birds from his lands and loses one of his best friends, as these birds consume countless destructive insects, as well as noxious weed seeds. Commenting on this phase of outdoor life, the Pennsylvania Game News says that the

U. S. Department of Agriculture has determined that the commercial value of birds in their destructiveness to harmful insects each year in the United States is \$350,000,000. Therefore, instead of farmers and land owners driving out wild life by needless burning of brush and other cover, they could serve a more valuable and useful purpose by planting more food-bearing plants, trees and shrubs as a means of protection and food for upland game birds.

Some people practice the art of expressing appreciation as a measure of economy.

**BACK TO BOYHOOD DAYS**

**A**S a small boy, did you ever on a bright spring day steal away to the brook behind the old mill and fish for trout? Or did you ever, on a crisp frosty morning, saunter forth with the family dog and an old gun to take random shots at squirrels and quail? Perhaps quick descending retribution took away some of the pleasures of the fishing trip; and, of course the clumsy old dog frightened away your game. But doesn't the memory of those far-off boyhood excursions come back to you and obliterate the walls of your office and make you once again the monarch of all outdoors. Now is the time to close up the old desk and take a day off once in awhile. Be a boy again. It will add years to your life. GO FISHING.

The man who cooks from the dining room usually objects most strenuously to his wife driving from the back seat.

**THE MENACE OF THE HOUSE CAT**

**O**NE of the most important editorial comments made on the cat menace is contained in the current issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. This editorial in full follows:

"Each year the Noise Abatement Commission of New York City receives more than 2,000 letters complaining about the nightly howling of cats. The director of the Animal Rescue League of Boston recently stated that his society handled in that city alone, 5,000 cats a month. A Connecticut trapper in the course of his winter's work caught thirty errant cats in his traps that were set for fur-bearing animals. Millions of domestic cats gone wild are said to inhabit Australia and are rapidly destroying the bird life of that continent. Game keepers in different states agree that in the last 25 years the errant cat has become the worst of all enemies to birds. British Columbia reports that in the Far North the valuable sooty grouse has been almost exterminated by cats. On Martha's Vineyard, they have been partly responsible for the extinction of the heath hen and on islands along the coast have annihilated the breeding colonies of gulls and terns. In Wisconsin, where the raising of pheasants was an important industry, the cat was found to be the most destructive predator, and in that state the cat has been outlawed, except under such control as prescribed by the legislature. There are probably few persons living who have not at some time seen a cat spring upon some helpless and harmless bird. The cat is not always the innocent purring creature that she seems to be when before the fireside or sleeping on the sofa. Indeed, the intimate contact with people which cats enjoy is sometimes a menace to human life, for they may carry in their bodies or in their fur the causative agents of human disease. Rat bite fever has in several instances followed the bite of a cat. A dog tapeworm and the hog roundworm are harbored by cats. *Brucella melitensis*, the cause of undulant fever, has been isolated from the mesenteric glands of infected cats. Cats are the hosts of several animal parasites, some of which are transferable to man. The liver fluke is a natural inhabitant of the cat. Since the female errant cat, which produces several litters a year, is the chief source of supply, Dr. Robert T. Morris has proposed a tax of \$5 on female cats to limit, in a humane way, the unwanted and unnecessary army of cats and thus to prevent the destruction of birds which may be laid directly to cats. There has been a tax on dogs for many years. Why not tax cats?"



## Scat!



MONTANA sportsmen, keenly interested in the welfare of the thousands of Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges liberated through activities of the State Fish and Game Department, should be preparing to fire a salute at tramp cats. The nesting season is here. Game birds, song birds and insectivorous feathered friends are rearing their young. Roving cats, sneaking through grassy cover, are collecting their toll, and one dead Tom means the conservation of lives of hundreds of song and game birds.

John Burroughs, eminent naturalist, estimates the cat population of the nation at something like 120,000,000 and has asserted that the average kill of each cat is about 50 birds each year. The International Cat Society, recently organized to check the tabby menace, estimates that of the great cat population in the nation, 65 per cent are strays. Cats are the greatest natural enemy of birds, which in turn are among the greatest benefactors of mankind.

There exists no more persistent menace to wild bird life than the common cat. However desirable and inoffensive a kitten may be as a household pet, the same animal when full grown and turned into the fields to procure its own living soon becomes the deadly destroyer of all forms of bird life. The cat population of the United States is a tremendous potential menace to feathered wild life. Of this large number of cats, it is safe to say that the greater part of them live principally by preying on all kinds of birds and small animals. Cats, in their activities, doubtless destroy harmful vermin, such as rats, gophers, mice and moles, but on the other hand they make most serious inroads on songbirds and even on the larger game birds.

Warden C. E. Cooke of the Minnesota Fish and Game Department, takes a pot shot at the tramp Tabbies in an informative article in Fins, Feathers and Fur, the official monthly publication of the department. He writes in part:

"Never before have sportsmen, conservationists and farmers taken such great interest and put forth such effort, in feeding our upland game birds through the winter. We hear old-timers going way back into Minnesota winters to find one comparable to this in the amount of snowfall.

"The main object among duck hunters is the restoration of lakes and marshes, to create sanctuaries and thereby bring back the ducks. The drouth of the past few years has had a serious effect on this state of many lakes, bringing on a series of crop failures, hordes of grasshoppers and other insect pests, and lowering the natural water level to

such an extent as to dry up our lakes, streams, and marshes. Wilt and tree pests have appeared in unusual numbers and taken their toll of valuable timber, besides the heavy loss of game and fish life caused by fires starting on the dry lowlands where water once stood. When recalling these conditions, one cannot help welcoming the heavy snows of this past winter, as it is certain to be an aid toward the restoration of our lakes, streams and marshes.

"While the sportsman is greatly interested in restoring the sadly reduced flocks of ducks, this lack has no doubt stirred many to a greater interest in our upland game birds, principally the ring-neck pheasant and the Hungarian partridge, as these birds introduced into this state in recent years have not become accustomed to finding their feed as well as the native prairie chicken, sharp-tailed and ruffed grouse. The feeding of these birds through the winter has most certainly saved thousands that would have perished when the snows became deep enough to cover the weeds on whose seeds they depended for sustenance.

"The general thought of sportsmen is that if they can save our grouse and pheasants through the winter for an ample supply of breeding stock, they will have something to hunt next fall even though ducks are still scarce. However, we should not look at the game birds from a shooting standpoint entirely, but remember their economic value to farmers as destroyers of weed seeds and insect pests, a value which is theirs as well as that of non-game birds. If we only had the numbers of grouse and quail of which Minnesota could once boast, with the addition of the ring-neck pheasant and Hungarian partridge, grasshoppers and insect pests should cause but little worry. The observant farmer of today has begun to realize that the grouse and the prairie chicken are good friends of his, and very seldom fed on standing grain or from the shock, but that the few kernels that they take are picked up from the ground as waste grain and that almost their entire diet consists of grasshoppers, beetles, other destructive insects and thistle buds, rose-pips and seeds of noxious weeds.

"Feeding these birds through a period of deep snows shows a fine spirit of conservation, but we should not forget that winter is not the only season of the year when birds must fight for their very existence, and remembering this, we know that our task is not completed. When spring comes to melt the snows and uncover their natural food sources, the nesting season approaches. The migratory insectivorous birds return from the south to be with us again, and at this season of the year most all wild creatures have their young, mammals and birds, and each species has its nat-

ural enemies, one preying on the other and doubling their efforts at this season to find food for their young.

"When we look back into the history of Minnesota, counting the causes of destruction of bird-life, there is little wonder that a few species are totally extinct and others are continually fighting for existence. Before the advance of civilization, wild life reigned supreme, and birds were here in millions. Then came agriculture, gradually crowding the birds off their natural nesting grounds; the market hunter, killing game birds by daily hundreds; then unwise drainage and reclamation of land took the water off the marshlands, followed by spring grass, brush and forest fires, destroying birds' nests by thousands. Up until recent years, far too lenient protective laws, and modern firearms played no small part in the destruction of game birds; spring fires still exist. Modern highways, good minor roads and the automobile are contributing to the heavy toll taken of bird-life each year.

"These are only a few of the greater causes of destruction—we still have the natural enemies of our desirable birds. The snowy owl and the goshawk come down from the north in the winter-time and raise havoc with our birds—the great horned owl feeds on them the year through. From early spring until late fall the Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawk are added to the list of bird enemies, and few of the mammals will pass up the opportunity to pounce on a bird. In the last few years, sportsmen's organizations have sponsored crow hunts each year to thin out the ranks of this proven enemy of all birds. Some there are who claim the crow not as black as painted, but a little field observation during the nesting season and a close study of the crow's habits should be sufficient to convince anyone of its destructiveness to desirable bird-life and place him well up at the head of vermin.

"With this list of a few of the more important common causes of destruction and natural enemies, we still have not mentioned what records now prove to be by far the greatest destroyer of bird-life over the entire country. Night and day, winter and summer, it prowls about through fields, timberlands and meadows, huting birds, robbing nests and in spring often destroying entire broods of young birds in one massacre. And this evil is none other than the common, innocent-appearing stray cat."

## AND YOU'RE IN THE BACK SEAT

Lady (learning to drive auto): "But how can I think of just what to do?"

Instructor: "That's easy. Just imagine that your husband is driving."



## Montana Reaps Annual Fish Egg Harvest



MONTANA'S great fish factories, producers of an average of 30,000,000 fingerling trout and grayling annually, are swinging into action. There's no such thing as the business blues in the Montana fish industry. Industrial unrest with resultant unemployment serves but to increase membership of the battalions of anglers. The season opened May 21, the tourist season is approaching, snow and ice are leaving the mountain lakes and streams and the fish factories are scenes of activity in preparation for handling the 1932 egg-take. It's springtime in the Rockies.

At the mouth of Flint creek on Georgetown lake, near Anaconda, preliminary work is in progress. Known throughout the land as the largest trout spawn-taking station, this vast enterprise produces the majority of Montana's trout and grayling eggs for distribution among the 14 hatcheries maintained by the State Fish and Game Department. Trained crews, clad in oilskins and waders, strip the female fish taken from the traps where they are halted while battling their way upstream to spawn. After the eggs are artificially taken, the trout are returned to the lake waters unharmed. Milt from

the males is taken in like manner to fertilize the carefully preserved eggs and they are then hurried by truck to the hatcheries to make the start of careers on the way to the angler's creel.

At other spawn-taking stations throughout the state where eggs are artificially taken from rainbow trout, native black spotted trout, and the famed Montana grayling, springtime marks intensive activity. Because of the sticky nature of the grayling eggs they must be hatched in batteries of glass jars through which water courses in sparkling streams. The trout eggs are hatched in troughs through which run streams of crystal mountain water.

Throughout the entire state, rearing ponds are being constructed in keeping with the program of conservation of wild life resources in which the State Fish and Game Department is engaged. Organizations of sportsmen are co-operating with the department in the building of these ponds. Here the fingerlings are placed to attain a goodly size before being liberated to battle natural enemies. Because of the heavy loss resulting from the planting of tiny fish, the state department is endeavoring to hold the trout until they attain a growth of three inches or more. At that time they are better qualified to forage and escape their cannibalistic brothers.

In contrasts with the pioneer system of distribution of tiny trout, when cans were packed on cayuses and laboriously carried into the headwaters of streams and lakes, the Montana department now utilizes a fleet of modern oxygen-equipped motor trucks, arranged in such manner that they rush their piscatorial burdens from the hatchery to the stream with loss at a minimum.

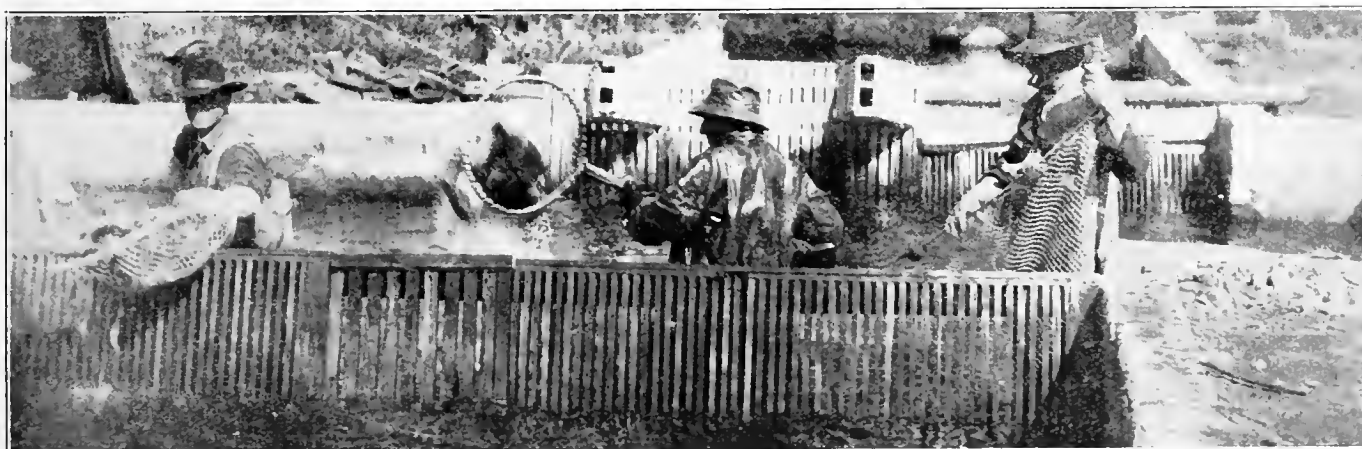
Montana's department has inaugurated a new plan with the issuance of the \$5 Resident Sportsman's License, this year, in an effort to check the annual loss of fish in irrigation ditches. By direction of the commission \$1 from the sale of each \$5 Sportsman's License will be placed in a fund to make possible the installation of fish wheels and screens in ditches leading from trout streams. Another dollar out of the \$5 will be set aside for the fund to increase the supply of upland game birds.

### SELF MADE

An oil producer recently retired with a bank balance of \$100,000. When he was asked to give his formula for success, he replied:

"I am able to retire with a hundred thousand dollars in the bank because I have always worked hard; I have endured hardships; I got the 'breaks'; and my uncle died last week and left me \$150,000.

## At the World's Largest Trout Spawn-Taking Station



MONTANA'S fish culturists are aiding nature in providing spawn for the restocking of streams. This picture was taken at the Flint creek spawn-taking station on Georgetown lake, near Anaconda, Montana, which is recognized as the largest station of its kind in the world. Here millions of eggs are artificially taken from the

thousands of trout that are caught in the traps at the mouth of the creek in their attempts to reach the headwaters to spawn. Fish experts in the water up to their waists are here shown transferring "green" trout to an adjoining pond to await the "ripening" period when the eggs are removed by artificial means, sorted, graded, placed carefully

in cans, rushed to the hatchery at Anaconda at a cool temperature and then immediately distributed to the 14 hatcheries operated by the State Fish and Game Commission. The female trout, after the spawn is removed, are returned to the waters of the lake, free from injury, while the eggs are artificially hatched after being fertilized by artificial means.



## Hints for Montana Fly Fishermen

By Earl R. Kauffman, Editor Pacific Sportsman, San Francisco, Calif.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Montana's fishing season opened on May 21 and the opening day found thousands of enthusiasts whipping brooks, streams and lake with unusual success. Prospects are unusually good for ample water this year, following excessive snow and rainfall and the reserve supply in the mountains promises to maintain stream levels through the summer. The following interesting bit of advice to devotees of the wet and dry fly, written by Earl Kauffman of San Francisco, recently published in the bulletin of the California Fish and Game Department, is timely reading for Montana anglers.

### "Conduct and Condiment"

A SAGE once remarked something about the spice of life being its variety—he that as it may, most decidedly the "spice" of trout fishing is in and very closely allied with the tackle and its use—hence the "Conduct and Condiment." To explain the subtitle further the "conduct" in this instance refers more to method than to deportment while the particular "condiment" of reference is wholly the spice, sauce and relish of fishing—in other words the tackle.

### The Beginning

Just where to stop on the matter of trout tackle is something of a question. There are many and sundry kinds of tackle—good, bad and indifferent. The beginner does not need the best—nor does the best necessarily cost the most.

Very likely more persons start their trout angling careers with the attractively displayed "complete sets" that sell for around \$4.79 than with anything else. The most remarkable thing about these outfits is that the component parts can be manufactured, distributed and sold for so little money. However, they have an important bearing on the subject of tackle. In that manner the beginner is able to get a rod, reel, line, hooks, flies, leaders and sinkers for but very little money. We who angled through the bent-pin-and-willow-wand-age had no such advantage, nor perhaps were "five-spots" so easily obtained then as now. Thus, our progress up the scale of trout improvement, toward the yet unrealized goal of perfection was retarded. We will refrain from reminiscence, however, and begin our analysis with the very inexpensive "complete" sets of today.

Now, one could play golf with a croquet mallet or tennis with a cricket bat, but one does not do so because the proper use of the proper equipment is essential to bring out the pleasure-producing propensities of the games. And, so it is with trout fishing—perhaps more than with any other kind of fishing.

Thus, we find our beginner in the trout fishing game with his "croquet mallet" in the form of a \$4.79 trout outfit. It's a starting point and really good enough for soaking bait—sure, he can catch fish with it, if he can with anything, but he is very liable to get wholly disgusted with the game due to the absolute inadequacy of the cheap

tackle if he attempts fly casting. However, as he develops "fishitis" he'll soon be looking around for better tackle—then comes the "dangerous age" in his process of evolution. He is all too liable to apply well known mathematical proportion, or ratio of money value, to rod value. If his first rod is one of the \$2.50 variety he is likely to figure that for \$5 he could get one twice as good, while for ten dollars he could get a "dandy." So, unless someone stops him before he goes and buys a \$10 or \$12 rod, the results will be wholly discouraging for he will find that the expensive-cheap rod is but little, if any, better than the original \$2.50 product.

The axiom of advising beginners on selecting trout rods is: "If you pay more than \$5 don't pay less than \$35." Not that the mere price has any particular bearing on the quality of product but as yet it has been economically impossible to retail a rod requiring so much care and hand work as a good trout rod for less money. On up the price scale one gets but little else than pride of ownership when he pays in excess of \$50 for a trout rod, as compared to one costing from \$35 to \$50. There is no longer any need for purchasing imported trout tackle—domestic made products are fully as good and in many instances actually superior, and may be purchased for less money when equal quality is considered.

### The Trout Outfit

We must assume that all trout anglers are either fly fishermen or that they will some day strive to be fly fishermen—they all will be too, if they ever catch as many as three fish on a fly. There is simply no comparison in thrill with bait or any other method.

The essential component parts of the trout "outfit" consists of rod, line, reel, leaders and lures. They are here named in the sequence of what I consider their relative importance. The most important accessory, the rod, has previously been discussed to some extent. For the average fishing it should weigh from 5 to 6 ounces and it should be from nine to nine and one-half feet long. Five and one-half ounces is a good weight and an experienced angler can handle them as big as they come with that size rod. But the rod must be a good one.

The quality of a rod, however, is measured in casting action rather than fish-handling capacity. Without a good rod you can not cast a fly properly—

that is for distance, delicacy nor accuracy.

The next in importance is the line. A proper fly line must be heavy. A cheap, light level line is a waste of money for any kind of fishing other than bait soaking. A very heavy level line is good—that is, a line of about 1/32 to 1/16 inch in diameter. But such a line costs nearly as much as a tapered line of good quality. Tapered lines come in thirty-yard lengths and of several different weights. They taper from the center maximum diameter down to fine at either end. The increasingly heavy weight of line following the light end in the cast acts as a weight to push the line forward. The double tapered line may be reversed on the reel to equalize wear. These lines cost from \$6 to \$10 or more but one of average price is a good investment—not only for satisfactory action in casting but from the standpoint of economy for with care such a line will last ten or twelve years.

The reel is next up for consideration in sequence of importance. Nothing has ever been invented to surpass the single action reel of large diameter. They are light, easily handled and when all is said and done the main function of a reel in the average fly fishing is merely something upon which to carry line. The automatic spring reels are actually preferred by some anglers but "for why" many of us are at a total loss to understand. These contraptions are heavy and when they get out of order they are out, and if there is any advantage in using them it is very little, not nearly enough to offset their definite drawbacks.

A good single action fly reel can be purchased for \$5 or \$6 and it will be quite as good as one costing upward of \$20.

Next comes the matter of leaders. A six-foot tapered leader is good for the average fly work; however, a nine or ten-foot one is better though much more expensive. For "slap-stick" wet fly fishing in a rapid stream a level leader is quite good enough and may even be bought in coils to be cut and tied as needed. For "real" fly fishing only one fly is used and that on the end of the leader. Loops and unnecessary knots should always be avoided as they tend to unduly disturb the water.

And now for the lures—in this instance flies. There is a great diversity of opinion and many conflicting ideas on



this matter of flies. No two anglers will wholly agree although there are some points of common ground.

In the first place there is the matter of patterns. In America we have been educated on English patterns. There is no limit to the selections of patterns, basic and variable from the basic. Many of us have dozens, yes, hundreds of flies in our various boxes and books which we have never even wet. When one gets to know his streams and localities he will pretty well know what he is going to use—then he will go out and buy two or three dozen different flies which he knows perfectly well he will not use—that old pride of possession—but then, there's always a chance that one might want an otherwise unavailable pattern.

Generally speaking, fly fishermen will have all the sport he wants with something like the following list of patterns: Royal Coachman, Gray Hackle, Brown Hackle, Black Hackle, Black Gnat, Black Ant, Red Ant, Cow Dung, Salmon Fly, Yellow Forked-tail, Black Forked-tail, McGinty (Bee Fly) and then maybe a few odds and ends just for the fun of having them along. The Royal Coachman and Gray Hackle will get him a long way in most waters and were I confined to selecting but two patterns, these two would be my outstanding choice.

Now as to size and type of fly. Here's wide choice again. For the larger waters, I personally prefer a large fly in the early season—say even a No. 6, a No. 10 or No. 12 will be better along during August. For the average fishing, however, a No. 10 is about right and the No. 12 may be used to good all around advantage. Late in the fall the midget flies prove the best of all—even as small as No. 18 or No. 20 but these usually have to be tied to order.

For type, in my opinion, there is but one and that is what is known as the eyed dry fly—that is, without loop or snell. It is some trouble to tie them on the leader but well worth the trouble. Fish them either wet or dry. Usually they are the better tied fly and the "weakest link" in your whole outfit is the union between the metal hook and the snell—so make your own fresh ties with each change of fly. In doing so, however, do not attempt to untie the leader; clip it off, then use a new section of leader to make the new tie. Learn to make a double-barrel knot—it's the best.

Here is a good place to make a bit of a suggestion about hooks. The barbless hook is something well worthy of far more extensive use than it enjoys. An erroneous impression has gotten abroad that the barbless hook is something of a "sportier" proposition than one of the barbed variety. That is not true—they will hold fish with equal tenacity as compared to any barbed hook going. They have three distinct advantages well worth considering. They will hook more fish than a barbed hook due to the extreme ease with which they penetrate. To be sure, some fish will be hooked very lightly and the percentage of lost fish may be higher than with a barbed hook, but the increased

## Fishes Must Have More Than Water

**G**AME fishes are like good housewives—they want plenty of "furniture" in their homes, but no "dirt." Every fisherman can easily improve the streams to which he has legitimate access by remembering that water alone doesn't make a fish feel at home. A park-like stream or pond means poor fishing. Fell an occasional tree into the stream. Sink brush into the pond. This gives shelter and encourages food. If the stream gets low in late summer, build low dams along it. See that there is shade along the banks, that there are not too many carp or other fish "pirates," and that the water is not poisoned by pollution.

number of fish hooked will result in a larger catch and much more action. Another advantage is the ease with which small fish are released from the barbless hook—not with the mere slackening of line as has been erroneously stated in many instances, but by merely holding the hook by its eye and allowing the small fish to slide back into the water practically unharmed. This is really very important and by this one virtue the barbless hook has become an important accessory of conservation. Then the third feature is that of safety—one who has had the painful experience of extracting a barbed hook from his flesh or even the troublesome bother of getting one out of his clothing will readily appreciate his advantage.

Certain patterns of barbless hook flies are available as a stock product and any fly tyer will use them when specified in making flies to order.

Don't expect to get much in the way of flies for less than \$2 or \$3 a dozen. There are many patterns and variations in addition to those named, such as a wide selection of wing positions and body construction—they are known as "full flight," "spent wing," etc. It's a lot of fun to play around with different patterns—if you can afford that kind of fun but the old stand-bys are good enough for most of us.

It would not be fair to entirely ignore at least mention of some other very creditable lures. The spinner in small sizes is a good lure—but don't ruin your good fly rod and disposition by trying to cast them like flies. The "Oreno" family—plugs—the wobblers—feathered lures and combinations are all good for times when they are not hitting flies or while one is developing his fly fishing. But if there are any words in fishing "lingo" which are synonymous they are "trout" and "fly." Now that we have given a lot of consideration to the "condiment" let us briefly outline some points of "conduct."

Fly fishing has been shrouded in a cloak of mystery. One of the greatest retardants to this greatest of all angling pleasures has been the erroneous

impression spread around that high skill in casting is required to catch fish on artificial flies. A lot of "hoovey!" Don't shudder, you experts; that's true and you know it. Remember when you used to find a nice open swift place with a back eddy below, then cast about three-quarters up stream allowing your fly to sink and be pulled down by the current into the black eddy—well, you got fish, didn't you, and with a lot more thrill than with bait or any other kind of "presentiment?" If you want to convert the users of lowly bait into members of the great fraternity of fly fishermen tell them how to begin—don't fill them up with a lot of "guff" about what a high peak of perfection they will have to attain before they dare venture forth with flies.

And to you beginners: just try sunken flies in fairly fast water in the above mentioned manner. Then see what you can do about casting behind that rock over there—yes, right in the quiet place—then try to hit the rock so your fly will bounce off lightly into the water where you want it to hit. In other words, try and watch results—catch three fish on fly and then you are forevermore a fly fisherman.

As your prowess develops—and remember the good rod and tapered line essentials—try other tricks. Pick out a patch of still water and try for delicacy—that is, making the fly wait gently on to the glass surface of the water before the leader hits. That's not easy, for now you are striving for perfection—the ultimate, just like the rest of us. And then practice for accuracy—place your fly in the shaded waters under the overhanging bushes across the stream (don't worry about losing a few hooks), then try for various predetermined choice looking spots; don't worry about so much distance—that's the least necessary requisite of all.

Just keep at it—if you don't get fish at first eat beans and bacon but don't give up.

In conclusion, here are a few things to remember: "Always fish upstream. Fish head upstream when they feed, so by working upstream you are not placing yourself in a conspicuous position. Wade only when necessary—you may shout, talk, shoot guns or make any sort of noise above water without disturbing trout but concussion caused by rolling stones or similar underwater noises will immediately alarm them. Never cast a shadow across the water until after you have fished a particular spot; avoid bright flashy trimmings and accessories; waders are far superior to hip boots; never depend upon rubber soles for wading, felt or leather are safer; and above all strive to be a fly fisherman, wet first, then dry—get pleasure out of fishing more than just the act of killing fish and then you will have reached the trout anglers' Utopia.

And they're telling the yarn about the famous bootlegger who refused a drink from one of his customers, with the remark: "Believe me, boy, I know my stuff!"



## Southeastern Sportsmen Honor Morris



MEMBERS of the Southeastern Montana Sportsmen's Association, at the annual meeting at Billings, May 14, elected Charles L. Morris of Laurel president of the organization, engaged in a constructive discussion of ways and means to cooperate with the State Fish and Game Commission in protecting and propagating wild life resources of Montana and enjoyed one of the most interesting sessions in the history of the association. President Morris succeeds S. G. Tonkin of Billings, who for many years has worked diligently for the welfare of fish and game and who has recently been stricken with illness. Other officers elected include Dr. C. H. Swanson of Columbus as vice-president, G. W. Fenton of Laurel as secretary and treasurer, and W. C. Phillips of Laurel, in charge of fish distribution. Mr. Morris has been vice-president of the association.

B. L. Price of Laurel was indorsed for appointment to the State Fish and Game Commission. He has for many years been active in the work of sportsmen's clubs and has taken a prominent part in deliberations of the Montana Sportsmen's Association.

The association went on record as opposed to a proposed change in the dates of the Chinese pheasant shooting season which would permit Saturday and Sunday shooting over a period of several weeks. Action followed an explanation by Joe F. Hendricks, superintendent of the state game farm at Warm Springs, that alternating days for shooting would result in extermination of upland birds. He explained that the birds would become bold during the proposed intervening five days and would then be subjected to slaughter when the shooting days reopened.

Following extensive discussion of the migratory waterfowl situation, the association went on record in favor of a 60-day open season on ducks, starting October 1, instead of the 30-day season which was established last year because of drought conditions.

The delegates discussed the advisability of attempting to rid Yellowstone river of carp, suckers and similar fish, and stocking it with trout. It was decided to ask the State Fish and Game Commission for permission to seine the Yellowstone between Laurel and Billings to determine the number of carp and suckers in the river.

Asked about the decrease in number of pintail grouse, Mr. Hendricks explained that pheasants are not responsible for their decreasing number, and attributed the condition to inbreeding. He based his statement upon experiments in England, and said that it appears that the pintail grouse every 10 years is present in decreasing numbers, but that from reports he is now receiv-

ing they seem to be on the increase again.

Mr. Phillips, fish distributor, gave an account of his activities of the last year. Seventy-five persons attended the session, and there were delegates from eight of the 13 cities and towns in the association. Places represented were Billings, Red Lodge, Hardin, Fromberg, Bridger, Park City, Forsyth and Laurel.

The delegates and visitors were guests of the Billings Rod and Gun Club at the annual banquet in the Commercial Club dining rooms, at which I. H. Larom of Valley, Wyo., president of the Dude Ranchers' Association, and Mr. Hendricks were the principal speakers. The banquet was presided over by W. K. Moore in the absence of S. G. Tonkin, president of the club, who is ill. One hundred and fifty-three persons attended.

Propagation of Chinese pheasants and Hungarian partridges was discussed by Joe Hendricks, while Mr. Larom talked along the line of cooperation of agencies interested in the furtherance of the fish and game program. Talks were also made by Andy Martin of Cody, Wyo., fish and game commissioner; B. L. Price of Laurel, John Scofield of Big Timber, superintendent of the fish hatchery there; A. H. Croonquist, secretary of the Dude Ranchers' Association; Judge Freeman of Forsyth, H. C. Crippen, Senator E. T. Eaton of Yellowstone county and Senator J. W. Corwin of Stillwater county.

Among the out-of-town guests were E. A. Wilson of Livingston, K. F. MacDonald of Anaconda, state superintendent of fisheries; Robert H. Hill, state fish and game warden; H. C. Saylor of Absarokee, deputy state game warden; E. J. Ikerman of Beartooth ranch, and F. I. Johnson of Camp Sawtooth.

The banquet came as a part of the Billings Rod and Gun Club membership campaign and arrangements were made by a committee headed by Arthur Trenerry.

Eight hundred members have been enrolled in the campaign, according to C. O. Campbell, who said that the drive will continue to reach the goal of 1,000.

### FISHING BIG INDUSTRY

As an indication of just how many persons are interested in commercial fishing, the government has compiled figures which show that 191,000 persons engaged in this pastime in 1929. An estimate of the financial returns derived from fishing is given as \$123,000,000. The government estimates that the number of anglers that fished for recreation in this country exceeds 8,500,000 and that the value of fishing tackle manufactured was approximately \$25,000,000.

The giraffe is found only in Africa.

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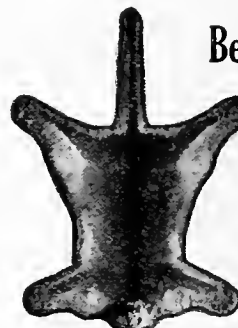


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## Duck Builds Its Nest In Trees

By John Lentfer, Livingston, Montana

ONCE classified as one of our vanishing species, the wood duck, thanks to timely federal and state regulation, is holding its own. While it is no longer found in many of its former habitats, other sections of our continent report an encouraging increase. It is not yet time to relax the careful attention and protection this bird has received for a number of years; yet it is fairly safe to say that this species will not go the way of the heath hen and passenger pigeon.

Many rate the wood duck as the most beautiful in America. It is one of the most richly colored birds found in the United States and the male bird when in full plumage is indeed a splendid



The Montana Wood Duck

creature. Perhaps it is not without a peer but certainly its feathers are the most highly prized of any by manufacturers of trout flies. The side feathers of yellowish-gray, waved with fine black bars, dress up into most tempting lures which have proven killers for all species of native trout. After federal regulation prohibited the killing of this bird in America, Holland started an industry in breeding American wood ducks and selling them to the United States. It is practical to rear them by artificial propagation and the Dutch had quite a lucrative business until America learned their methods of breeding.

Because its natural nesting place is in a hollow tree, often far from water, this bird is called the woodland member of the duck family. It formerly bred in practically every section of the United States and does not go to the far northland to rear its young.

Once much more frequent along the streams of Montana than at present, many of our sportsmen do not know that it is native to our state. The accompanying picture is that of a wood duck found near Billings, Montana, and recently mounted for the Billings Rod and Gun Club. With the proper permit to possess, the specimen is now in their club house. Arthur Trenerry, secretary of the club, realizing that such a

## The All-Around Gun Dog

(Continued from Page 7)

their had ones. This I am glad to do. The only fault, if it be a fault, is their absolute shunning of strangers. Some-



Cricket, five months old, pointing Chinese pheasants.

times they make up slowly with their new master.

One of the best and most intelligent dogs I have ever imported was two months making friends with me. Once his confidence was won, he would take orders from no one else when I was around the kennels or hunting with him.

I have known him to retrieve heavy jackrabbits one-half mile, passing other hunting companions, to deliver them to me. The other fellow's game is always brought to their master.

The growing popularity of this breed in America is well merited and I can readily see why he is the most popular gun dog in Continental Europe.

For the man who can own only one dog, cannot afford to hire a trainer, who hunts a mixed bag, he is the dog par excellent.

(The third and final article of this interesting series by Dr. C. R. Thornton of Missoula will appear in the July edition of MONTANA WILD LIFE.)

specimen would be of interest to his club, upon hearing of the bird being at hand, made arrangements to have it sent to a taxidermist, Kenneth F. Roehen, U. S. Game Protector, located at Billings, states in his correspondence that the duck was killed in the following manner:

"Allen T. Holmes, deputy state game warden, was on the river west of town and saw a hawk dive down and catch this bird. When Warden Holmes went to the place, the hawk dropped the duck but it was then dead and he brought the bird to me."

Many who see the specimen belonging to the Billings club will view for the first time at close range the beautiful plumage of the wood duck. Perhaps not a few will have thoughts akin to those of one Montana sportsman who, when admiring the rich coloring of the bird, exclaimed: "No wonder they closed the season on wood ducks."

Hunters declare Tanganiyika, Africa, to be the best big game country in the world.

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# MONTANA WILD LIFE



## Believe It or Not



OMEWHERE in Montana, or the tributary territory that constitutes the remainder of the nation, there's a fisherman who can't be coaxed to tell a bigger one than the other fellows around the camp fire. But as yet he hasn't been led up to the snortin' pole. The open season is on for yarns of strange fish, for big fish, for fish with twin mouths and a flock of tails and for the hooking of creatures that resemble everything in the piscatorial category. Many of these fantastic yarns



The Rock-Rolling Whitefish

are told with straight faces for the benefit of the visiting easterner or tenderfoot who swallows hook, line and sinker until he becomes acclimated and then goes out and herds up his own story and slips it to the last newcomer with all the nonchalance and ease of the tried pioneer.

One of the latest of the delectable stories of alleged fish adventure comes from Missoula where Jack Boehme, manufacturer of fish tackle and fish yarns, is putting out the story of the rock-rolling whitefish. Boehme, whose veracity is unquestioned, has taken additional precautions against the truth of his story being questioned, and has had the strange creature mounted by a versatile, nature-faking taxidermist and placed on display. He has even gone further and had the beast photographed and to all who inquire, he has presented a picture to bolster up the story.

It seems that this rock-rolling Montana whitefish extolled by Jack Boehme, and organized by a taxidermist of no mean versatility, is endowed with horns. Boehme declares, to all visiting dudes, that the specimen on display was caught in Boulder creek. Of course Montana has some dozen of these Boulder creeks, hence the exact location of the catch is still a mystery. He further explains that the specimen, pictured in this edition of MONTANA WILD LIFE, obtains its food by rolling over stones by using the horns that grow from the stomach. He enlightens the seeker for knowledge with these remarks:

"At night this strange Montana fish manages to sleep by driving its horns into a log in the stream and remains there until the first ray of sunlight strikes it in the morning. The horns

are caused to relax by the sunlight and thus it is freed from the log. It is one of the most difficult of Montana fish to land because of the horns. When hooked, it usually dives into a log jam and it is almost impossible to extricate it. The horns on its back and belly are firmly affixed to logs when it is hooked and the leader is usually broken. This fish was landed by removing the log to which the fish had fastened itself."

That's Jack Boehme's story and he's sticking to it just like the rock-rolling whitefish sticks to the log. Believe it or not.

All of which is remindful of the quaint story of the Fur-Bearing Trout from Iceberg lake, in Montana, which appeared in MONTANA WILD LIFE three years ago, in the May edition of 1929. Despite the fact that the story was written to be listed among fishermen's yarns, inquiries are still being received from writers who continue to be gullible, as to where the fur-bearing trout may be caught. At the request of many anglers who missed the original article, it is herewith reproduced, with the illustration. J. H. Hicken of Whitefish, Montana, is the sponsor of the fur-bearing trout and has full copyright protection. He has granted MONTANA WILD LIFE permission to reproduce the picture and the article.

Here's the way he tells it, so believe it or not:

"The discovery of this fur-bearing fish was made while traveling through Glacier National Park during a sudden drop in temperature, following up of which led to 'Iceberg lake,' located near Whitefish, Montana. Several hooks were tried, but were broken immediately upon touching the water. Finally, one was heated, and when this hit the water, the temperature tempered the hook, with the result that one of the fish was caught.

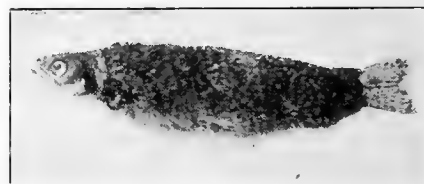
"The water in this lake is so cold that nature has taken care of her own by providing the fish with a thick coat of fur. In fact the water is so cold that it is beyond the freezing point.

"The beazel, a very rare specimen, is found only on Prince Edward Island and lives on the hum of the humming bird. They were found to be the only bait that these fish will bite except in extreme warm weather, when it has been learned that they will bite on 'ice worms.' Another peculiarity of this fish is that it follows the precept of the poet who said: 'In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.' So with these fish, and during this period with a portable phonograph; by putting on a love song the fish will come to the surface, and the quick transfer of a jazz record results in them shaking themselves to death, when they can be picked out of the water.

"It has been found that these fish

absolutely refuse to bite during the 'love' month of June, but, as there is always a black sheep in every family, the one caught (picture of which has been taken) disgraced himself before the entire family and suffered the usual penalty.

"They make a rare fight in landing them out of the water, due to the fact that nature has provided them with this fur, which ruffles and causes such a resistance that it is practically impossible to land them only under most favorable circumstances. The fur also acts as an accelerator, and when they step on the gas with their tails and fins their speed is beyond any known



The Fur-Bearing Trout

fish at the present time. This, in turn, also acts as a brake in reducing speed or stopping, by simply putting the fur against the grain, and is their protection against survival of the fittest.

"The change of temperature from this water to atmosphere is so great that the fish explodes upon being taken from the water, and fur and skin come off in one perfect piece, making it available for tanning and commercial purposes, and leaving the body of the fish for refrigerator purposes or eating, as desired; the body keeping the ordinary refrigerator cold for two or three months and no ice required. If fish is desired for eating purposes it will take several days' cooking to reduce temperature to a point where ordinary people can dispose of it.

"If the fur is made into a neck piece it has been found to be a cure for goitre and tonsilitis; the fur stimulating circulation to such an extent that all impurities are removed. The fish has been so recently discovered that information regarding their habits is very meager, but further details will be given when available."

### NO CHOICE OF SHOW

The traveling man spent the night in a small hotel. The room clerk was awakened by the phone, and a voice said:

"There are two mice fighting in my room."

"How much are you paying for your room?" asked the clerk.

"One dollar."

"Well, what do you want for a dollar, a bull fight?"